

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00  
OIC-02 DOE-11 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05 SOE-02 SS-15  
OES-07 DOEE-00 /140 W  
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9639  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0573

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (E.O. LINE TO READ GDS VICE N/A)

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: TSPA, UN  
SUBJECT: UN OUTER SPACE S&T SUBCOMMITTEE: THURSDAY, FEB. 16 AM  
SESSION

SUMMARY: SESSION DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO FURTHER GENERAL  
STATEMENTS, MANY FOCUSING ON COSMOS 954 INCIDENT AND  
NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL RULES TO GOVERN NUCLEAR POWER  
SOURCES IN SPACE. OF CONCERN IS GROWING TENDENCY, ESPECIALLY  
AMONG LATIN AMERICAN STATES TO FOCUS ON GROWING MILITARY  
USE OF SPACE THEREBY OPENING MILITARY SATELLITES TO  
REGULATION.

1. VENEZUELA SUPPORTED SCOPE OF A STUDY PROPOSED BY  
CANADA TO REVIEW THE S&T ASPECTS OF USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
IN SPACE AND THOUGHT THAT A WG OF SCIENTISTS AND EXPERTS  
TO DO THAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. STATED THAT SOME SPACE  
SYSTEMS ARE BEING ESTABLISHED FOR BASICALLY MILITARY  
APPLICATIONS AND SPECIFICALLY FOR ATTACK AND INTERCEPTION.  
2. UK IN FIRST STATEMENT BEFORE S&T COMMITTEE, STATED  
THAT SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL MATTERS RAISED BY COSMOS  
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954 SHOULD BE ASSESSED IN TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP AND  
THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR  
PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. STATED THAT CAREFUL AND  
PAINSTAKING WORK LIES AHEAD BUT S&T COMMITTEE SHOULD NOT  
CONSIDER LEGAL ISSUES. UK CLOSED BY REVIEWING UK ACTIVI-  
TIES IN SPACE SCIENCE OVER LAST YEAR AND REITERATING UK  
SUPPORT FOR POLICY OF COLLECTING AND DISSEMINATING REMOTE

SENSING DATA ON AN UNRESTRICTED BASIS. UK WOULD NOT FAVOR ANY RESTRICTION CREATED BY SEGREGATING USES OF DATA.

3. MONGOLIA CONGRATULATED BOTH US AND USSR FOR THEIR SPACE ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR AND REVIEWED MONGOLIAN WORK IN SPACE RESEARCH OVER LAST YEAR. COULD NOT SUPPORT PROPOSAL FOR AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP.

4. NIGERIA INFORMED COMMITTEE THAT IT HAS SET UP A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTIVITIES IN SPACE. RE COSMOS 954 FOLLOW-ON, STATED THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAN NO LONGER BE PASSIVE ONLOOKERS AT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH COULD HAVE SERIOUS IMPACT ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. SUPPORTED EARLY STUDY OF IMPLICATIONS AND CANADIAN LONG RUN SOLUTION FOR TRAINING OF PERSONNEL AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES WORLD-WIDE TO DEAL WITH SUCH ACCIDENTS INVOLVING NUCLEAR SATELLITES.

5. MEXICO SUPPORTED CANADIAN POSITION OF PROMOTING EFFORTS TO REDUCE RISKS IN NUCLEAR POWERED SPACECRAFT. STATED THAT COSMOS 954 IS SIMILAR TO US SATELLITES FOR MILITARY PURPOSES AND REGRETTED SUCH SATELLITES ARE LAUNCHED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES. SUPPORTED SWEDISH RESOLUTION OF URGING STATES TO SUSPEND LAUNCHING OF NUCLEAR POWERED SPACECRAFT OR SATELLITES CARRYING NUCLEAR GENERATORS.

6. BRAZIL REITERATED PRINCIPLES IN OS TREATY WHICH MUST BE FOLLOWED IN CONDUCT OF SPACE ACTIVITY. STATED THAT USES OF ALL SYSTEMS FOR MILITARY PURPOSES MUST BE OUTLAWED, CONFIDENTIAL

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PROVISIONS FOR VERIFICATION AND SAFEGUARDS MUST BE AGREED UPON, SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF STATES MUST BE RESPECTED. ALSO STATED THAT STUDY OF LEGAL REGIME FOR SENSING SHOULD BE MATTER OF PRIORITY. BRAZIL MADE MOST DIRECT ASSAULT ON MILITARY ACTIVITY IN OUTER SPACE WITH STATEMENT QUOTE THE PROHIBITION OF EMPLACEMENT OF MASS DESTRUCTION IN OUTER SPACE MUST BE RESPECTED AND THE USE OF ALL EQUIPMENT OF A MILITARY NATURE OR ENVISAGED FOR OTHER HOSTILE PURPOSES SHOULD BE OUTLAWED UNQUOTE.

7. YUGOSLAVIA GAVE BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THEIR NATIONAL SPACE PROGRAM BUT REMAINED SILENT ON COSMOS 954.

8. USSR, IN BRIEF INTERVENTION AFTER OTHERS HAD DISCUSSED MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN SPACE, STATED THEY CANNOT SHARE THE CONCERN EXPRESSED AND REPORTED THAT SOVIET SPACE ACTIVITIES ARE UNDERTAKEN TO ALWAYS BE CONSISTENT WITH USSR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS. SOVIET DELETED REMARKS BY CHARGING THAT STATEMENTS OF DELEGATIONS ON MILITARY USES OF SPACE WERE IRRESPONSIBLE.

COMMENT: SO FAR ONLY COUNTRIES EXPLICITLY PICKING UP JAPANESE FOCUS ON MILITARY SATELLITES ARE 3 LA'S REPORTED ABOVE, SOVS WERE QUICK TO RESPOND AND US DEL MAY BE ABLE TO

AVOID ANY PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC DEBATE ON THIS ISSUE.  
AS BACK-UP DEL REQUESTING GUIDANCE SEPTEL. INTERESTING  
TO NOTE YUGOSLAVIA ONLY EE NOT SUPPORTING SOVS ON 954.  
ALL OTHER SPEAKING SO FAR HAVE SUPPORTED IDEA OF  
TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP.  
LEONARD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING REPORTS, SURVEILLANCE SATELLITES, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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20 Mar 2014  
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